

**Laying of Telephone Lines**

2024. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for laying telephone lines in Bihar during the current year;

(b) the number of lines laid so far;

(c) the names of the Telecommunications circles which are lagging behind the target and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the annual target of telephone lines?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The target fixed for laying of telephone lines (providing telephone connections) during the current year in Bihar Telecom Circle is 47,000.

(b) The number of telephone lines provided during the period April 96 to January, 1997 is 25,094.

(c) and (d) Necessary equipments and funds for

providing telephone lines have been allotted by the Government to all the Telecom Circles and the equipments have started reaching the sites. It is expected that the target set for 96-97 would be met.

[English]

**Metropolitan Transport Projects**

2025. SHRI SYDIAH KOTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of metropolitan transport projects (MTPs) under construction by the Railways;

(b) the details of projects which are proposed to be started; and

(c) the estimated cost likely to be incurred on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (c) The following MTP projects are under construction by the Railways. The sanction/estimated cost of the project is shown of against each:

S.No.	Name of Work/Projects	Sanctioned/estimated cost (Rupees in crores)
1	2	3
	<b>Calcutta</b>	
1.	Design & construction Dum Dum-Tollygan (16.45 km.)	1640.00
2.	Circular Railway Calcutta	35.49
	<b>Mumbai</b>	
3.	Additional pair of lines between Bandra-Andheri (7.20 km)	111.57
4.	Extension of railway lines from Mankhurd-Belapur with a bridge across Thane Creek and ancillary facilities on Harbour branch (17.98 km)	440.87 (145.48 Rly 295.39 CIDCO)
5.	Thane-Turbhe-Nerul-Vashi part of corridor no.2 in Mumbai (19.0 km)	403.39 (131.47 Rly 271.92 CIDCO)
6.	Belapur-Panvel doubling of commuter line (10.9 km)	279.83 (92.34 Rly 187.49 CIDCO)
7.	Kurla-Thane 5th & 6th line (phase I) (10.0 km)	49.84

1	2	3
8.	Seawood-Uran electrified 5th line (22.30 km)	401.81 (129.87 Rly 271.94 CIDCO)
9.	Mumbai Central/Santacruz Borivali 5th line (15.81 km)	64.17
10.	Quadrupling between Borivali-Virar (25.84 km) <b>Chennai</b>	327.21
11.	Construction of line MRTS line from Madras Beach-Luz (8.55 km)	259.44
12.	Luz-Vellachery extension of MRTS (10.30 km)	605.70 (141.96 Rly 463.74 Govt. of Tamil Nadu.

(b) At present there are no sanctioned works which are yet to be started.

[*Translation*]

#### **Linking of Desert Circuit with Rail**

2026. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme with the Government for linking of "Tourist Desert Circuit" of desert areas of Bikaner, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Nagaur and Barhmer in Rajasthan with Delhi by a broad gauge railway line;

(b) if so, the names of the cities where gauge conversion work has been started in first phase; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Gauge conversion has been completed from Bikaner-Nagaur-Merta Road, Jodhpur-Jaisalmer and Merta Road - Jaipur-Delhi.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Balco's Korba Project**

2027. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given permission to Bharat Aluminium Company Limited's Korba project to start a new Rolling Mill;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions thereof; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to start its work?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (d) Government have approved Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO)'s proposal to set up a New Cold Rolling Mill with a designed capacity of 40,000 Tonnes per annum to produce thinner gauges of sheets and coils below 0.4 mm thickness. The setting up of New Cold Rolling Mill would involve an investment of Rs.157.50 crores at price level of last quarter 1996. The construction period of New Cold Rolling Mill is 36 months.

#### **Pending Cases in Industrial Tribunals**

2028. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted additional labour courts and industrial tribunals and organised Lok Adalats for the speedy disposal of labour related cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years; and

(c) the number of cases disposed of through these courts and the number of cases pending till February, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Central Government have